SETTING UP OF CONTAINER FREIGHT STATION BY CENTRAL WAREHOUSING CORPORATION

3339. MISS SAROJ KHAPARDE : Will the Minister of FOOD be pleased to state :

(a) whether the Central Warehousing Corporation is planning to set up container freight stations;

(b) if so, the details thereof;

(c) whether the Corporation is also planning to have container repairing and servicing facilities in the country; and

(d) if so, the details thereof ?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF FOOD (SHRI KALP NATH RAI) : (a) and (b) The Central Warehousing Corporation is already operating Container Freight Stations at Sidalaj (Ahmedabad), Bhandup (Bombay), Sanathnagar (Hyderbad), J. N. Port, Kalamboli (New Bombay), Royapuram (Madras) Virugambakkam (Madras), Pune (Maharashtra), Parpargani (Delhi) and Ludhiana (joint Venture with Freight SWC) The Corporation is also developing Container Freight Stations at Calcutta (West Bengal), Dronagiri Node (New Bombay), Kandla (Gujarat), Surat (Gujarat) Nasik (Maharashtra), Udaipur (Rajasthan) and Madhavaram (Madras).

(c) and (d) The Corporation is planning to develop repairing and servicing facilities in India for International Standard Organisation (ISO) Containers at a few selected Container Freight Stations. The Corporation is having discussions in this regard with the Bridge & Roof Company (India), which is a subsidiary of Bharat Yantra Nigam Ltd., a Government of India enterprise.

INCREASE OF WHEAT PRICES

3340. SHRIMATI KAMLA SINHA : Will the Minister of FOOD be pleased to state :

(a) whether the Central Warehousing a good monsoon for the sixth successive year, grain prices are soaring;

(b) whether the price of wheat has increased by 4.3 percent and that of rice by 2.3 percent in the past one month alone ; and

(c) if so, what are the causes of such increases in the price of grain which affect the buyers of food, including millions of landless labourers and urban poor ?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF FOOD (SHRI KALP NATH RAI) : (a) During the last 4 weeks ending 4-12-1993, the wholesale prices of sub-group cereals have shown a marginal rise of 0.2 percent when measured in terms of variation in the wholesale Price Index Numbers.

(b) The percentage variation in the WPI of wheat and rice during different intervals of 4 weeks ending 4-12-1993 are as under :—

	Wheat	Rice
Over 1 week	+0.5	—0.6
over fortnight	+1.3	—0.5
Over 4 week	+1.4	—0.8